

Registration

Pre-registration is strongly suggested—Walk ins will not be guaranteed lunch

PayPal is set up for secure payments via credit card

Register at www.firesafemt.org

To pay by check— complete this form and mail with check to:

FireSafe Montana
C/O Continuing Education
32 Campus Dr. #1728
Missoula, MT 59812

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Conference attendee ☐ \$15

Check here for vegetarian meal ☐

Registration Covers:

- ☐ FireSafe Montana Associate Membership
- ☐ Conference Speakers & Materials
- ☐ Morning coffee/tea
- ☐ Lunch

Visit www.firesafemt.org or call Jennifer Mayberry at 406.431.8718 for **conference scholarship** information.

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Miles City College,
Miles City
March 31st, 2012

2012 Montana Communities & Wildfire Conferences

Responsible Wildfire Preparation:
How FireSafe Councils Can Help



Presented by FireSafe Montana

FireSafe Montana



Developing collaborative solutions to protect Montana's communities from wildland fires.

FireSafe Montana is a private, non-profit organization coordinating and supporting a statewide coalition of diverse interests. FireSafe Montana's goal is to help Montanans create fire adapted communities—creating survivable space for their homes, neighborhoods, and communities.

FireSafe Montana actively encourages and assists in the development of local FireSafe councils across the state. These councils are key to raising public awareness of local wildland fire threats and issues, motivating residents to take action for their safety, and providing access to the expertise and resources communities and homeowners need to get the job done. When people take personal responsibility for applying and maintaining Firewise practices on their property, they greatly increase the chances of their homes surviving a wildfire.

Through public information programs and materials, a website, newsletter, and special events, as well as its active involvement in federal, state, and local fire mitigation efforts, **FireSafe Montana** is working hard to reduce the potential loss of life and property from wildfire in Montana.



March 31, 2012

Visit www.firesafemt.org for agenda details

Speaker Biographies

- 9:00** Welcome and Opening Remarks. *Bud Peterson*
- 9:15** Rangeland Fire Behavior: *Scott McAvoy*
- 9:45** Working together to fight wildland fires: *Randy Sanders*
- 10:15** *Coffee Break*
- 10:30** The benefits of forest management in Eastern Montana: Increased Forest Production, management flexibility, water yield, and reduced fire hazard *Chris Pileski*
- 11:15** Forestland Conservation: Natural Resources Conservation Service Practices and Programs for Forestland Health: *Scott Brady*
- 12:00** Lunch
- 12:45** Ready Set Go: How homeowners and local fire departments can work together to prepare for wildfire. *Rich Cowger*
- 1:15** 1/3 Mile to Safety: A family's tragic story as they evacuate 1/3 of a mile to the nearest fire station— *Pat McKelvey*
- 2:00** *Break*
- 2:15** Insurance: Understanding perspectives of wildfire and the role of insurance. *Don Lorenzen*
- 3:00** What you can do now: Creating a fire safe community. *Jennifer Mayberry*

Randy Sanders

Randy has worked in fire service since 1980. He started with the Savage Volunteer Fire Department and retired as Assistant Fire Chief. He has worked for the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation since 2003 as the Fire Program Manager, working with 11 counties in southeast Montana to coordinate large fire fighting activities, training, and prevention in the Eastern Land Office area.

Chris Pileski

Chris Pileski graduate from the University of Montana's Forestry School in 1994. He has since worked for Plum Creek Timber Co. and the DNRC. The past 15 years, he has managed forested state trust land in eastern Montana and assisted many Eastern Montana forest landowners with the management of their forest resources. Since 2009, Chris has been the Area Manager for DNRC Eastern Land Office.

Scott Brady

Scott attended MSU Bozeman and received a B.S. in Fish and Wildlife Management with a minor in Range Science in 2003. Scott began working for NRCS as a soil conservationist and then transferred to Miles City as a Rangeland Management Specialist in 2005. Scott's work focuses on conservation planning on rangeland and stand improvement through EQUIP and CSP programs.

Rich Cowger

Chief Cowger is the President of the Stillwater County Fire Council and sits on the Southern Land Office MOB Board, along with the State Wildland Committee, the first fulltime Fire Chief of the combined Town of Columbus and Rural Fire District. Cowger was instrumental in bringing the town and rural fire districts together through inter-local agreements.

Pat McKelvey

Pat McKelvey is a lifelong resident of Helena, MT. Pat is the hazard mitigation project manager for Lewis & Clark County and the Tri-County FireSafe Working Group. He has a B.S. from MSU Range Management. Pat is the Jefferson County firewarden, a member of the Clancy Volunteer Fire Department, Keep Montana Green, Disaster and Emergency Services, and Public Information Officer. Pat is one of the founding members of FireSafe Montana.

Don Lorenzen

Don received a B.S. in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and a B.S. in Computer Science from Illinois State University. Don worked in the US Peace Corp 1977-1979 in Guatemala. He has worked for State Farm systems 1982-1992 in Bloomington Indiana & California. He has worked in State Farm Commercial Underwriting since 1992 till present in CA, OR and the past 16 years in the field serving North Dakota, Idaho and all of Montana. Don is the Secretary and Treasurer of FireSafe Montana.

Local Programs and Sponsors

Custer County Fire, NRCS Equip, DNRC, BLM, State Farm, Farmers, Garfield County Volunteer Fire Department.